# ORIGINAL

## JEFFERSON PROVING GROUND RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

DATE:

February 3, 1998

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

PLACE:

Versailles High School Versailles, IN 47042

CO-CHAIR:

Paul Cloud Richard Hill

Sharon Shields

S.A.S. Reporting Service

3650 N. Old SR 62, Madison, IN 47250

Business: (812) 265-2994 Fax: (812) 273-5220

A public hearing of The Jefferson Proving

Ground Restoration Advisory Board meeting was held in the

Versailles High School, Versailles, IN at 7:00 P.M. on

February 3, 1998.

## OPENING STATEMENTS BY MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Okay I would like to welcome everyone to the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board meeting. We meet approximately every other month and we are rotating the meetings between Jefferson, Jennings and Ripley County. At the end of the meeting we will announce when the next meeting day is going to be and where. My name is Paul Cloud and I'm with the United States Army. I'm tasked with the environmental clean up of the Proving Ground. And my function with the Restoration Advisory Board is to solicit comments and perspectives from the public on the clean up of the Proving Ground. To my left here is Richard Hill. He is the community co-chair and without further ado I will turn it over to Richard for any opening remarks he may have. And then we will get started on the agenda. Richard.

25

20

21

22

23

## MR. RICHARD HILL:

Thank you Paul. I don't have very much at all. Believe it or not this is actually our January meeting that we had to put off a few times so we finally got here in February. And I've got a sinus infection so I'm not feeling too hot so I'm just going to set down and listen to Paul for a while. But I'm really glad that people could make it tonight. So we will just carry on from that.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Before I start the formal presentation we encourage anyone who hasn't to please sign in on the attendance sheet so we can assure you are on our mailing list for future mailings. And also we have a copy of the hand outs that you will be seeing up here on the screen. I think you will be seeing up here on the screen. (Adjusting) Okay. This is our agenda for tonight and as I say this is the items that we will talk about. We have a specific item usually towards the end of the meeting for open discussion. But don't let that delay you in a specific question as we go through on the evening. If you do have a question please feel free to raise your hand. I would encourage you to speak up so that our court reporter can get your comments down for

- 3 -

Ĭ

25

Okay. The first thing I would like to talk about is the transfer and lease options. We talked about how that is done under BRAC facility like JPG is. basically it's - the first step is getting what's called either a FOST or a transfer or a FOSL for a lease. acronyms mean Finding of Suitability to Transfer or Finding of Suitability to Lease. Those are essentially environmental documents. I will let you read that. never really been a fan of having someone read to me on a But if you have any questions as to what a specific bullet might be or want further explanation I will be happy to do that. Again these slides are all on the table there so that if you have any problems reading the things on the screen you can just follow along in your hand notes. Now there is some distinction between a FOST and a FOSL and this will tell you a little bit about some of the specifics on those two (2) documents. one (1) is for transfer and one (1) is for lease. For anyone that doesn't know what CERCLA is, that is a comprehensive environmental - basically a SuperFund law. And that is a process by which the Army is utilizing to clean up south of the firing line although we are not a formal SuperFund site. Now if I start going too fast through any of these slides let me know and I can slow down. Now here is what a FOSL is. Basically the biggest

- 4 -

24

25

distinction between a FOST and a FOSL is that a FOSL is environmental mediation or clean up for an easier to understand phrase may not be done yet but the property can be leased for public or private use and that use will not interfere with the continuing clean up. Typically on a transfer that clean up is done or the clean up mechanism is in place and operating satisfactorily and the property can be transferred. So that's the basic basic distinction between a lease and a transfer. And in either case there - there is a potential to have some types of restrictions on either the lease or the transfer depending on the local clean up that was done and the projected reuse. And here are some of the things that are considered when a FOST or a FOSL is created. see a lot of these things apply to JPG. Here are some common restrictions or conditions that might be applicable for either a lease or a transfer. And these would be incorporated in a draft FOST or FOSL that is put out for thirty (30) day comment to the public and the Restoration Advisory Board. We have copies in the library. We have the administrative records which is at Hanover College. If you have an interest and you're not a formal RAB member you can request copies either from Ken Knough who is our site manager or Richard and we can get you copies if you are not a formal RAB member.

- 5 -

25

As I said the process does involve the public as outlined here. It also involves the EPA and the State Regulatory Agencies. Okay. Now just to go over the completed FOSL that we had at Jefferson, we only have one (1) and that is basically for the entire cantonment area parcel, approximately thirty-four hundred (3400) acres, and that was completed last year. And then the lease was signed also actually year before last. Okay. And here's what's called a Lease in Furtherance of Conveyance so it's more than just a lease because it's the Army's intent to actually convey that property ultimately as it's cleaned to the lessee. And as it says here as the areas are cleaned up we will transfer them. Now we have had a number of FOSTs or transfers that have been completed. The first one (1), actual FOST, the first one (1) was on the pump station downtown Madison. And although it took some time to get it formally transferred it was transferred last August to the City of Madison. They now own that property. Another transfer that was done - this is actually the first transfer to occur although it wasn't the first FOST that was done was to Madison Port Authority. And they now own Building 216 and all the railroad trackage on the Proving Ground, approximately fifteen (15) miles of track. This FOST for the Krueger Lake area, which is the area as you come in the main gate

- 6 -

was signed back in November of '96. We expect that that parcel will be transferred sometime this quarter of this The deed is I believe in the Army Secretariat's office for signature now. I don't want to say too much more about this. We have a gentleman on the agenda, Mike Early, who is the Base Transition Coordinator who will talk a little bit more about the reuse issues specifically. And now going to some of the UXO removal I've - as a lot of you probably know there was an Archive's Search report done with Jefferson still open. It was done by the Huntsville Corps of Engineers for the They identified approximately this amount of acres in the cantonment area that had a potential for UXOs. The Army's commitment was to clean up UXOs to a depth of four (4) feet below surface. And anything below that would be paid for by the re-user. And this will show you the schedule. You can see here that the first few items have been done. The airfield and the area south of Krueger Lake are in progress and we expect them to continue for some time. Whether or not they go out quite as far as they are indicated there will be a factor of how much they actually find and weather conditions more than anything else. The last area is the western parcel which was at one (1) time part of what Jefferson County had requested for the park but was subsequently removed

- 7 -

24

25

from their request and will be done last. Okay. hundred (100) acre parcel was done. That's how many pieces of ordnance we actually found in that hundred (100) acre parcel. That's how much scrap was found. thirty (30) acre parcel was completed then. You can see that its very location specific as to how much we find. You can also see that we found a lot of scrap no matter where we are. Now this last one (1) was just a surface sweep. Although we found a lot of rounds there only three (3) we believe contained high explosive. All the rest were inert. The airfield is currently in progress. It started last fall and it will probably go through the spring as a minimum. This is current as to up to last week. We get weekly reports from the Corps and we provide that written information and status to the State and EPA and that's where they should be right now. Currently on the area south of the lake they have just started laying out the grid patterns to do the surveys on that so work has started but the actual removals have not. And the last area will be started next year. that's on the west side. What I would like to talk about now is the program that has just recently been identified and came out for public review and we expect the final regulation to come out sometime this month. It's called TAPP. And what it does is provides technical assistance

25

for public participation on the Department of Defense's Environmental Restoration Program. To put that in layman's terms what it's designed to do is to provide money to public members or community members of the Restoration Advisory Boards. It's funded by the Department of Defense for an end to obtain independent typical evaluation of documents that are vital to the RAB. A case in point would be this spring we expect to get remedial investigation report for our contractor on work that's being done south of the firing line. there may not be a lot of technical understanding and expertise on some of the members of the RAB or the community side, but this program would provide the funding for those members to go out and contract with an environmental contractor to review those documents and then to discuss that with the public members so that they could provide an input back to the Army and regulators from a more informed knowledgeable prospective. This is the basis of what I'll go through on the TAPP program so I have a number of slides that will discuss those specific issues. Again it's to provide independent assistance in interpreting the scientific and engineering issues with regards to the restoration of the facility. And that's the goal. Okay. What you will see now is some of the basics on not only who is it for but how is

- 9 -

it obtained. Again the final procedures should start to come out this month and then the community members could follow this process and fill out the appropriate forms and submit it and that would be initiated for this RAB. If people aren't familiar with the Federal Facility Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee, that is a national group that is involved with the Department of Defense, the EPA and a number of states and environmental organizations nationwide that provide DoD with a wide range in prospective of "national issues". And this process was actually identified as something that might be of benefit to Restoration Advisory Boards throughout the country from this committee. The National Defense Authorization Act of 1996 nationally authorized into law the funding for the TAPP Program and has taken this long to go through that process to draft a proposed regulation and put it out for public comment in the Federal Register and then respond to those comments, hopefully as I said this month come out with its final process and then implement it and make those funds and that process available. Again the final rule should come out as Richard and I were told about a week and a half ago in Chicago hopefully this month. Now here is some of the requirements under the National Defense Authorization Act for obtaining a TAPP grant. If you can't see it over

- 10 -

23

24

25

there is significant underlined or. And that's the or. You can see that not only is it to provide a technical expertise where none is but it will or is likely to contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of the public acceptance of the clean up at a facility that is justification for requesting and obtaining funds for this This is another part of the process as Okay. process. far as other mechanisms or means that have to be investigated before the TAPP funds can be requested. Some of these may be applicable to JPG and some of them may not. Now the first one (1) up here under the EPA this is for FBL sites. That would not be applicable to The second one (1) however may be but it's not clear right now whether that would be or not. Okay. This is another part of that process and you can see as you go down through some of these items that once the application is submitted and it's been approved there are certain funding limitations on how much money can be obtained in any given year and a total amount of money That's all laid out there. Bill? for RAB.

here (indicating) on the last line on the right hand side

## MR. BILL CORNING:

Paul is - what's that got to do with Ripley County?

Kipiey Co

#### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

What it would do not only for Ripley but for Jennings and Jefferson is as I said April-May time frame we expect to have the technical document out for review on the clean up of the Proving Ground.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

South?

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Inne. But that will - that will come to you as a RAB member or as a general member of the public for comment. Now if you don't have an understanding of some of the technical issues there but you feel that you want to review it and provide or form a comment on that what you have to do is provide money to hire a contractor who is knowledgeable and either train you to understand it or we do a review of the document and then discuss it with you in terms that would make it easier for you to understand and you can come back to the Army at a RAB meeting and provide us with - based on your review, the contractor's review, your increased and better understanding of those issues, now here are the terms and here are your perspectives and here are your priorities. And that will

- 12 -

be factored in how the Army would proceed along with the State and EPA on how we would clean up that area. But it is for south of the firing line.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

You see the word I get from people in Ripley County is it's contaminated. You say its contaminated. We have no objections. You're telling us the straight stuff. We will never get to use it for anything because you have already leased it to the Fish and Wildlife. So it looks to me like this TAPP we've got here if we applied for it would be a real good waste of money.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Well first of all the Proving Ground is not leased to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

Well they are operating it for you.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Well they are not even operating it for us.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

Well you're paying them two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to do something.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

We're paying them to what they are expert at which is wildlife management. And that is the MOU that the Army and Fish and Wildlife entered into so we are paying for a service. They are not lessees. They don't own or control any of the property at this current time.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

Okay.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

And that's north of the firing line. That's true.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

So in other words this wouldn't really do a thing for us because we can't go over there to use it for over thirty (30) years anyway.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

At the current time for north of the firing line that's correct. However should at a future date some action be taken north of the firing line this would be applicable and of benefit to someone. What you say is current now. But it may not be current two (2) years from now or five (5) years from now. We all know that things can change.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

Yeah. Our agreement went out the window. That changed.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Did I answer your question there?

## MR. BILL CORNING:

Yes you did Paul. Thank you.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes sir?

## MR. JOE HALL:

I guess I just need to be brought up to speed a little bit in regards to this. But what you

'	were referring to was the property that Riprey had
2	requested?
3	
4	MR. BILL CORNING:
5	All the property that Ripley County -
6	
7	MR. JOE HALL:
8	Three (3) or four (4) years ago?
9	
10	MR. BILL CORNING:
11	Yes.
12	
13	MR. JOE HALL:
14	And the property that Jennings had
15	requested?
16	
17	MR. BILL CORNING:
18	Yes.
19	
20	MR. JOE HALL:
21	Three (3) or four (4) years ago?
22	
23	MR. BILL CORNING:
24	Yes.

## MR. JOE HALL:

And that's what this is - the purpose of this is to perhaps address that?

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No. No sir. What I think - I think there may be some confusion at this point in that. The community did make a request for more property. However on BRAC facilities there is a certain it's called property screening process that is very specific as to who has first right, second, third right so on and so forth. And the basic sequence is other agencies and Department of Defense and then it goes other federal agencies. Then it go to the homeless for a try and then it goes to state and then basically the local/community.

## MR. JOE HALL:

Un-huh (yes).

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

During that process the Fish and Wildlife Service requested everything north of the firing line. In fact they even requested initially acreage south of the firing line but it was subsequently modified meaning that was taken out. So the property

- 17 -

Ü

that was excess, made available, was south of the firing line. The community made an application, what's called an Economic Development Conveyance Request for that property. That was submitted to the Army back in 1995. It was found to be deficient. Subsequent to that the property was put up public sale, public bid. And that's how we have gotten to where we are now. And it was put up for bid. We identified the high bidder and that is the lessee who is — who has now has the Furtherance of Conveyance. The only property that was ever accessed, made available for reuse south of the firing because Fish and Wildlife have a legal claim on anything north of the firing line. That's a pretty short and a compact version to bring you up to speed.

## MR. JOE HALL:

I understand. I was part of the
Reuse Committee so I was somewhat aware of that how
things can change. I thought maybe it had been opened
back up to where --

#### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No. No.

## MR. JOE HALL:

Where maybe Jennings and Ripley would have an opportunity. Okay.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Any other questions to this point? Again as I said you can see here that there is a process. This outlines some of the major steps. There are some funding restrictions on it but it's not a lot. It's a bit of money. However I have been told that should a particular RAB have a justifiable means of funds in excess for that year, per year or total, then that could be requested for an exemption or a waiver. But that would case specific. And now here is some of the things that are eligible for these funds. So there are a number of items. Again probably one (1) of the more appropriate or specific ones that would be of interest to an area that doesn't have a lot expertise in the environmental matters would be at the bottom, would be training. But the flip side -- Mike?

#### MR. MIKE EARLY:

Can you flip back to that chart?

25

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

You're having technical problems?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yeah.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

Ripley and Jennings County as well as Jefferson County may be interested in part of that because I sense that they may have an interest and long term environmental changes may or may not take place.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Okay. Just as those were some of the eligible items that could be — the funding could be used for, you have a flip side to that. Things that the money would not be granted for. Obviously the Department of Defense and the Department of the Army in this case will not fund — pay someone so they could go home and sue us. That doesn't make a whole lot of sense. Somewhat similar but a little different, again it wouldn't be to generate new data. It would be to review things that we are

25

currently generating and obligated for. It wouldn't be to open up something that's already been decided for if it doesn't dispute with the Department of Defense. last one is down there basically because the Army has a separate program for the community outreach and community So it would be almost like doing the same relations. thing twice. That's - so that's why the last one is down there as community outreach to bring -- However there is an appeal process so don't feel that if you may have an application and it's objected that would be the end of the story. You can make an appeal and there are basic ground rules for that appeal and these are basic outlines of what are to be done for that appeal. When it says the majority of members again this would mean community members. It wouldn't be appropriate for the Army to have a voice in that because it's not an Army matter per se. It would be the majority of the community members would have to agree on the appeal. In summary for the community members of the RAB to provide independent technical assistance demonstrated need or it would aid in the acceptability of a particular clean up method with the community those are justifications for making There are funding limitations or application. restrictions. And it will be effective on publication of the final rule which we have been informed will be this

- 21 -

month. The last thing I would like to go over here is a couple of things which need to be done or are being done in the community involvement. JPG web site, we have a draft web site that's currently being reviewed and not for the public display yet. We hope to have it up on the web in March. When that is ready we will give a separate presentation, probably multiple presentations for all three (3) counties in different locations. This is the actual web address. If you access that right now on the web all you will get is one (1) of those standard under construction logos that you would see if you went to another web site you would see - a -- would have to come up on line. But that is the web site address. But right now as I said it's not up.

15

16

17

18

## MS. LINDA GREENE:

March?

19

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

21

20

22

23

24

25

Right.

MS. LINDA GREENE:

Why didn't I know that?

Are you hoping early March or late

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Okay. For those of you that don't know DOD's proposed range rule this is to address the issue of unexploded ordnance at closed, closing, or transferred facilities. That is JPG in a nut shell. So if we include more than BRAC facilities JPG is under that definition. Now that rule was published in the Federal Register back in September of last year. The ninety (90) day comment period has now expired. The Department of Defense is reviewing those comments: My current information is the time schedule they are looking at sometime this summer to come out with a final rule. And that's how UXO will be addressed at all closed, closing, or trans - closed, transferring or transferred ranges which is where JPG falls. As more information on the range rule comes out we will keep you informed and how it will be implemented and affect JPG. We will provide that information also. And with that that is the end of my presentation. Mike Early, the Base Transition Coordinator, will add a few words on reuse specifically. You are not going to use this Mike?

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

No. My improvement is that I'm not even going to have any slides at all tonight. Basically

23

24

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

we have - we have one (1) major issue that Paul has already talked about and that is the transfer of thirtysix (36) acre of the JPG cantonment area. completed in late December to Mr. Dean Ford. And we have - Mr. Ford's plans right now he is planning to further convey that to the Indiana Department of Transportation where they will establish a regional highway maintenance facility on those thirty-six (36) acres. Essentially they will be using the - the equipment maintenance building that we used for government equipment to be maintaining highway maintenance equipment in those So it's essentially a like use and I think buildings. that's really good for the community at large, a good effort. We do not have any other FOST or Findings of Suitability to Transfer that we are working on right now. I hope to be working on a couple of those in the near future. But nothing firm at this time. We are still maintaining a dialogue with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on a long term relationship for the area north of the firing line. We have only opened that and that will take some time to see if that matures. Is there anyone who has any questions?

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

I have a question.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

Yes sir?

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

My name is Steve Vaughn.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Could you either move up or speak up so that your remarks will record?

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

My name is Steve Vaughn and I recently read in the Versailles Republican about the authorization of Sites - Sites Act? And it was basically allowing public hunting and fishing on government land.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

She still can't hear you. If you will go up to the table.

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

Okay. I'm wondering about the Sites

Act if that was just re-authorized and basically what it
says in here (indicating) that it's worked with Fish and

Wildlife performing the military to provide public access

for hunting and fishing and trapping of other uses.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

Un-huh (yes).

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

Has anybody seen that?

#### MR. MIKE EARLY:

The question is you're talking about a re-authorization of the Sites Act which does provide fishing — as I understand it, the Sites Act, and I'm not that familiar with it, we, the United States Army and I guess really the Department of Defense and their bases work with the Fish and Wildlife Service and the states I believe are also involved in that. In this case it would be Indiana Department of Natural Resources on hunting and fishing programs.

## MR. KEN KNOUGH:

Mike I have a comment. My name is

Ken Knough. Steve, the Sites Act was re-authorized. JPG

of course when it closed - you know when we used to have

the state hunts where state hunters would come up for

deer at Christmas hunting.

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

MR. KEN KNOUGH:

Right.

The Sites Law, the bill did allow some state hunters to come back and deer hunting. The Fish and Wildlife Service was managing that. This year we are going to allow state hunters to come in and do some turkey hunting. So there are some very full limited access possibilities in the way of the general public if they're interested in hunting to have a chance to come in.

MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

Okay. The way I understood that that worked recently was that only law enforcement officers, conservation officers, like that. Basically people --

## MR. KEN KNOUGH:

Yeah. Up until last fall that's pretty much the disposition of the staff. But now with the Fish and Wildlife Service we can kind of get back in the program that we used to have that - you know to allow folks like yourself to come in and do some turkey hunting.

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

And what about the fishing? Is that also? Or is that something different?

## MR. KEN KNOUGH:

It's a possibility that it can still

## MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

Thank you.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

Thank you Steve. Is there anyone

else?

work.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Okay we're now basically to the time of the meeting where it is open for general comments or open section. So if there are any questions that you have we would be glad to either answer them if we can or take them back and get an answer and come back. Bill?

## MR. BILL CORNING:

I just want to make a statement, not a question. Well yeah one (1) question. How much longer

are you going to run the RAB? Do you have any idea?

2

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 24

25

## MR. BILL CORNING:

No.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

I have discussed this and you can look right in this room at how many local citizens are here. That shows you the interest. I've discussed this with - at the Lion's Club, Soil and Water Conservation District, Historic Hoosier Hills, which covers nine (9) counties and these people, and I'm one (1) of them, we were interested in JPG and we were told as many of us know that this would be a possibility for the counties to get some property for needs that the county had. realize that all the deals that were cut were voided. The citizens that I've talked to in Ripley County first they know that the place is contaminated, they know that there is some speck uranium there. They are not concerned about that. They are not worried about some diesel oil spilled out in the woods some place. They don't give a hoot about that. So all this technical stuff and the EPA and all this stuff that's going on over there, the general public really doesn't care about it. And that's why I wondered how much longer the RAB is

going to - because you know we all get together every couple of months and have a nice evening and I get to make my little speech. I know what the answer is before I ever open my mouth but then I feel better after I say it. And I was just wondering how much longer it's going to go?

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Again I don't have a specific date. There are specifics on when RABs are disbanding. A couple of examples would be we're done with the clean up okay? Another specific would be if the community wishes to have the RAB disbanded. That would be another one (1). To the best of my knowledge with the exception of one (1) facility that has completed their clean up, that is the only RAB that has been disbanded. We are talking approximately a hundred (100) bases throughout the country. So there are some RABs that have very serious problems with internal for RABs. It's not that they're not involved. It's not that they don't care. But there are very serious problems with the RABs and there was serious consideration of having to disband that RAB but it wasn't. So with the exception of one (1) RAB that I'm familiar with that ceased to exist because they are done, all the rest of them still exist. But there are some

- 30 -

done. 2

3

1

5

6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

mechanisms for disbanding the RAB. It just hasn't been

## MR. BILL CORNING:

We enjoy having all you people come. I enjoy getting together with you every time.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

This RAB is somewhat unique I - I won't dispute that. But - and while there aren't a lot of environmental concerns it does perform other functions than that. And so there are - there are other reasons to continue this RAB even if there isn't to quote you there isn't a lot of concern for environmental issues, there are other reasons to continue this RAB for the foreseeable future. But it does provide a mechanism for - to discuss many of these issues and something that maybe I should of right now six (6) months, a year, two (2) years, five (5) years from now may change. So that affords the community that opportunity, not only to stay informed but should an opportunity come up to express some of their desires for that new opportunity.

## MR. KEN KNOUGH:

--- I think you're right.

## MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Ken I can't hear you. John?

## MR. JOHN MANLEY:

I just wanted to talk about your concerns. I've been to other RAB meetings and it is true that this is unique because south of the firing line has already been leased. North of the firing line is probably going to go to U. S. Fish and Wildlife. The other RABS, they are still in there. They are in the beginning process of determining who gets what. And that has already taken place to a certain extent here. So it is a lot different than other RABS.

## MR. PHIL MANN:

Has everybody heard anything at all about payment in lieu of taxes? Is that a dead issue? The man that I had a point of contact with is no longer in that capacity. Mr. Holmes. Is that - has that been swept under the carpet, nobody wants to talk about that?

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

No not at all. The question that

Phil asked is what is the status of something called

payment in lieu of taxes which was a question that was

asked a couple of RAB meetings ago which we responded to

- 32 -

county cannot bring that into the tax roles. So there is a payment in lieu of taxes. The question was asked -Phil I think asked it a couple of meetings ago, how does that apply to Jefferson Proving Ground because it's Army land that Fish and Wildlife is performing a service or they're managing natural resources. Does that particular statute apply? I've got an answer to that and that statute does not apply because it is not land that is owned by the Fish and Wildlife Service. If the impact area of the land north of the firing line would become a refuge and the Army you know passes that title to the Fish and Wildlife Service then that area would fall under

in a previous RAB meeting. The current law that is

written provides a payment in lieu of taxes for land that

is held by the Fish and Wildlife Service and a particular

18

19

20

21

22

23

24 25

pay it?

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

MR. PHIL MANN:

that statute for payment in lieu of taxes.

No unless the law is changed.

Is there any way to get the Army to

## MR. PHIL MANN:

Congress can make laws can't they?

## MR. BILL CORNING:

But Mike you told us at other meetings that as long as that's out of the contaminated DoD could not transfer it to U. S. Fish and Wildlife because they would not assume the responsibility for the contamination.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

No sir. Let me clarify that. The Army cannot pass title to land out - that is contaminated with unexploded ordnance outside of the federal government.

## MR. BILL CORNING:

Right.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

The concerns we have been dealing with with the Fish and Wildlife Service is over the liability for unexploded ordnance, the environmental site, the depleted uranium, the landfill, all of the conditions that are north of the firing line. And those

- 34 -

are the kinds of issues that we are addressing.

MR. BILL CORNING:

But they say they will not accept responsibility for any liability of that.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

There's a - yes there is a difference in outlining the responsibilities for the liability as opposed to transferring title. As an example - you know we could transfer title and describe how the Army would be responsible for the things that the Army put there. If the Fish and Wildlife Service erects some other building or does whatever they do, then they bear the environmental responsibility for what they do on what is now their land. Does that clarify that?

## MR. BILL CORNING:

I guess.

## MR. MIKE EARLY:

In other words we pay for what we did. They pay for what they did or would do.

1	MR. BILL CORNING:
2	Yeah.
3	
4	MR. PAUL CLOUD:
5	Any other questions or comments?
6	
7	MR. PHIL MANN:
8	Doesn't refuge land have to be
9	cleared to a depth of one (1) foot? Isn't that a
10	regulation?
11	·
12	MR. PAUL CLOUD:
13	No.
14	
15	MR. PHIL MANN:
16	It's in our
17	
18	MR. MIKE EARLY:
19	If we can get the clearance, UXO
20	clearance it depends on the reuse.
21	
22	MR. PHIL MANN:
23	Some areas it may be a refuge?

#### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

There may be some areas of refuge that would require surface clearance and there may be some areas of the refuge that would require to a one (1) foot clearance and there may be some areas of the refuge depending on the specific needs that would require a four (4) foot clearance. But anything that might be transferred to Fish and Wildlife that would require a clearance would be something that would be negotiated between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Army. If they came to an agreement then that's what would be done for those specific types of reuse. So it may not be the whole reuse of the whole area because the whole refuge may not be accessible to the public.

# MR. PHIL MANN:

But nobody will negotiate for anybody for a county reuse?

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

You can't negotiate to the counties if the property is not available to it. If it were accessed and it were available then we would be able to do that. We cannot --

# MR. PHIL MANN:

It's not available to the county because the Army won't pay to clean it up but the property --

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No that's not true.

### MR. PHIL MANN:

It is true.

### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Army will or will not pay to clean it up. The law requires that there's a specific screening process for access for the property. If Fish and Wildlife had not asked for it then it would have come to the state. If the state had not asked for it then the counties would have had that opportunity. Regardless you know they were not provided that opportunity because it was not accessed. It was not made available. It has nothing to do with how much the Army will pay.

### MR. PHIL MANN:

I know you've clarified it in your

- 38 -

.

. 

own mind but it hasn't been clarified in my mind and it never will because it doesn't add up.

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Any other comments?

# MR. BILL CORNING:

Well you were in the Army.

### MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

There is current jurisdiction of the facility. What that means is that not only is there law enforcement from the federal side, whether the Army or whoever, but also state has jurisdiction up there.

### MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

On paper it might be outstanding.

But in actual use, no. It doesn't work. There's one (1) guy that I know of that goes in there and checks. And that's the deputy sheriff of Ripley County.

### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

That is up to the community as to how much of their resources they want to allocate for that function. They have the jurisdiction.

# MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

But shouldn't the Army be responsible and kind of do something?

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The Army is responsible if any rounds are found. They will address and take care of those.

# MR. BILL CORNING:

Paul how much money has DoD or whoever paying Ripley County to have some jurisdiction over that to chase somebody that's in there?

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

There is no mechanism for the Army to provide funds to the counties for that function.

### MR. BILL CORNING:

But - but you want us to protect it.

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The Governor of the State of Indiana took that obligation on for the State.

# MR. BILL CORNING:

But we don't get anything. Why does the state get it?

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

That is an issue that the county should have addressed to the Governor before they signed the document obligating the State. That was not something that the Army forced upon the State. That was a decision made by the Governor. Yes sir?

# MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

Well back again Mr. Knough can verify it and as you know I'm gate tender down there. I see a

- 41 -

lot of stuff that goes on. The last couple or three (3) months there's been a car stolen down there. The past weekend there was another building broken into. It's like thirty-four hundred (3400) acres of no law-lawlessness.

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Again the State --

# MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

And the State - well.

We understand that. We have had the

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Prosecuting Attorney discuss that issue with the local

 judge. There is a jurisdiction that the State does have and they can enforce it should they so seek. We

understand that there are other issues besides that but

that opportunity is there. Any other comments or

questions? Yes sir?

# MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

Within the - I know you've got Fish and Wildlife managing part of it but does any of that include upkeep of Old Timbers Lodge?

### MR. MIKE EARLY:

The specific answer to your question is no. We have a separate memorandum of agreement with the Air National Guard and the Air National Guard, Indiana National Guard has signed that agreement and the Indiana National Guard is working on upkeep of Old Timbers Lodge and the Oakdale School House and the stone arch bridges that are all on the historic register. So Old Timbers Lodge is being taken care of.

# MR. BILL CORNING:

Mike let me ask you a question.

Where does the guards get their money? Does DoD pay for part of the Air National Guard?

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

Yes.

# MR. BILL CORNING:

Okay. So in other words you take it out of one (1) pocket and put it in another one (1) basically.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

At the macro level yes.

- 43 -

### MR. BILL CORNING:

Okay.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Where it - Bill where it makes a difference is in the ind - is in the individual services and what they have in their particular pockets you know. And that's something that's done not just here but government wide, not only within the Army and the Department of Defense but among different agencies because of the way the funding is handled in the federal government.

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes sir?

# MR. MICHAEL SWANGO:

Back at the cantonment area what - what was the cost of cleaning that up? What has the Army spent on transfer of that?

### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Well it hasn't - with the exception of the thirty-six (36) acres that was just transferred and the railroad trackage and the one (1) building,

that's all that's been transferred. The bulk of the thirty-four hundred (3400) acres has not been transferred yet. The next parcel that will be transferred is the approximate two hundred (200) acres that will go to the county. There is no contamination in that parcel nor were there any in the other areas that have been transferred so the cost to clean those areas up was zero (0). Estimate to clean up the cantonment area, and that's for environmental sites and for unexploded ordnance, is approximately forty (\$40,000,000) to sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000). And that money would have been spent regardless of who got the property, whether it was a private individual as in the actual case or had it been the State or community or anyone else.

# MR. MICHAEL SWANGO:

If the Army was willing to spend that kind of money to sell a piece of property for what they got for it what is it worth to Ripley County and Jennings County to get two hundred million (\$200,000,000) a piece for development in sales since the Army has closed this place outside of the Proving Ground?

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

I'm not quite sure I understand your

question.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21 22

23

24

25

MR. MICHAEL SWANGO:

Well it is - my question is the money that you spent to release property over - is really pretty unbelievable to a community as we are. What - you know there's no chance and it's not possible north of the firing line to really clean this up or do anything. mean it's nothing but a liability. The Army has talked about this from day one (1). Liability. We give it to anyone here if they can prove liability. They are not in the real estate business. But you have spent so much money south of the firing line for Jefferson County and specifically for Jefferson County to benefit really, not Ripley County or Jennings County, is not going to benefit that much more, why hasn't there been some money set aside for Ripley County and Jennings County under the circumstances that the contamination, you know of the property that we have left? You all come in here and everybody - I think everybody here knows the story about the farmers and everybody leaving for the government. You all - the government - the Army came in and contaminated this place and made it unusable. And there were jobs. You closed them down and you left. Don't doesn't the Army really think that somehow through the

community, through industrial park, something, they've got some money for these counties?

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

Well the -- the --

### MR. MICHAEL SWANGO:

You know your hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for us to understand your documents is - is like taking us to McDonald's for a Happy Meal. You know that's real sad. That's what the Army is offering.

### MR. MIKE EARLY:

Well the Army - what we can't - doing what we can do and because we're chartered by administration to do redevelopment in - in President Clinton's Five (5) Point Program, what we can do is try to encourage redevelopment of what was there of the cantonment, of the industrial area that can be reused. There are over a hundred (100) jobs, just over a hundred (100) jobs back there now at the Proving Ground. Recognized that's not what was there when the Proving Ground was closed. And in the closure process there were about four hundred (400) jobs in there. Last year there were - I guess there were about a hundred (100) there

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

when we closed, eighty-five (85) to a hundred (100) jobs when we finally finished up in '95. But what we can do is try and put the jobs back in where it is possible. I think what you're saying is okay I understand that but what can you do up here if you can't - I guess where you're going if you can't do anything inside the box, what can be done outside the box? That's not a part of the Department of Defense. That is a part of - of the Commerce Department and there is a representative, Julie Berry, who does work on those kinds of community development issues. For example about four (4) months ago Julie applied for a grant to do comprehensive - a comprehensive zoning and development study outside of the Proving Ground boundaries to look at what's outside the box. You know outside the boundaries what can be done The Defense Department, Office of Economic Adjustment supported that. And that was funded by a combination of - of federal monies.

# MR. PHIL MANN:

I think what people would like to see Mike is some of that federal money stay inside the -- while Julie Berry and all those people up there that work inside D.C. to actually come down here in Ripley County.

And I think that everybody here should write a

Congressman and say that the Army needs to pay for the property. They need to pay property taxes on that installation. It's not used for the defense of the nation. They need to pay up. As long as they were using it for the defense of the nation we will stand by and watch and we wouldn't take any payment. But when they quit they need to pay. I believe that.

# MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

I do too.

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Any other comments or questions? Yes sir?

# MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

tell you. We have a lot of trouble out of fire departments. And as you know seventy-five (75) to eighty (80) percent of it it lays in the south end of the Proving Ground. And we've been getting kind of hit hard on tax purposes. Like I said about taxes. And I reckon the trustees depended on the Proving Ground to be the primary fire department, which it actually wasn't, which you know I knew it and a lot of people didn't. It was

- 49 -

9

10

11

12

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

kind of courtesy and public relations when they did come out. Now we've got to fund out own fire department and everything and there's a hundred and fifteen (115) families in Monroe Township that's paying taxes. When is these people in here inside the Proving Ground coming in these factories, when are they going to start paying for township and property tax and all this other?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

When the property is transferred to Mr. Ford then as I understand it it would come upon the public tax roles an they would be obligated to do that.

MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

Well what's going to help us now? Because there's a lot of - a lot of people that are --

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Well you are paying your taxes for your fire protection on your property. What's wrong with that?

MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

Well at the time we wasn't the way I understood it.

22

23

24

#### MS. LINDA GREENE:

Good point.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

No. The Army had a reciprocal agreement that if there was a fire on post that could not be handled by as I believe is correct, and we have this at most of our installations, community like that the Army will have a reciprocal agreement with one (1) or more fire departments in the community that if there is a fire on the military installation and it is beyond the capability of that fire department the community fire departments will come and help respond. The other piece of that is if there is a fire in the community that's beyond the capability of the community fire department and the government fire department can respond as part of the reciprocal agreement they will. They will do that.

# MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

We had that for years.

### MR. MIKE EARLY:

Yeah there is no --

24

25

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

### MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

I'm concerned right now that Jefferson Proving Ground has closed down.

### MR. MIKE EARLY:

Right.

### MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

The fire department.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

Correct.

### MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

We've been given the information as taxpayers that we had fire protection. All of a sudden it came up and we didn't have any.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

But you have the same community fire protection that you have always had. What is not there now and I agree with you is that the Army fire department is not there now. But the intent of the Army fire department was never to provide fire protection for your community.

### MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

I know that. No it never was. It just give the impression as to that.

### MR. MIKE EARLY:

And the Army is - we have contracted with some of the local fire companies to provide fire protection service on Jefferson Proving Ground for those Army buildings that are there and that are vacant. So we are paying - the Army is paying for their fire protection service from the community.

### MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

But the question I had wasn't about that. I know all about that contract and the Army.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

Un-huh (yes).

# MR. ALBERT GEISLER:

And at the south end and the north end. The fire department of New Marion and Madison Town or Ryker's Ridge. But we was sold out you might as well say when the Army sold out the range pret near.

2	Well you've got something with
3	Ryker's Ridge and Madison Township don't you?
4	
5	MR. ALBERT GEISLER:
6	We didn't have no contract with
7	nobody.
8	
9	MS. LINDA GREENE:
10	Well I know you didn't immediately
11	but you do now.
12	
13	MR. ALBERT GEISLER:
14	Right. We had to come up with all
15	the money.
16	
17	MS. LINDA GREENE:
18	Right.
19	
20	MR. ALBERT GEISLER:
21	You get a hundred and fifteen (115)
22	families hit by a big tax bill they kind of get
23	concerned.
24	

MS. LINDA GREENE:

### MR. BOB HUDSON:

But what happened though since that township didn't opt - didn't need a fire company of their own, that township did not need one, because they relied upon the Proving Ground, in essence they rode along for about fifty (50) years free, a free ride. And now they've got to pay.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

Now the truth comes out. You had a free ride.

# MR. BOB HUDSON:

Now all of a sudden they have to pony up the money and it's difficult because it's such a few families in that township.

# MS. LINDA GREENE:

That's right.

### MR. BOB HUDSON:

The Army recognized it's going to be a problem on them but they didn't have a - there wasn't any way to help them.

#### MR. MIKE EARLY:

We did provide on closure, we did provide some fire equipment to some of the local communities. I don't know - recall what distribution was.

### MR. BOB HUDSON:

But they didn't have fire department. They couldn't even get the equipment.

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Any other comments or questions? I don't have anything else. Richard do you have any closing remarks?

# MR. RICHARD HILL:

Maybe just a couple. To address something Bill was talking about the low turn out of people, you know I think we all understand a lot of the reasons. But I was at a meeting in Chicago a couple of weeks ago with some other RABs in the midwest and even some that are in pretty large metropolitan areas that have what I consider pretty big problems to look at. They have a hard time getting people to come out too. People are more interested in other things a lot of

times. I know that doesn't help you any but I wanted to throw that in.

# MR. BILL CORNING:

Well it's just like we've all been together and I ask a question and I know what your answer is going to be before I even ask it.

# MR. RICHARD HILL:

We usually know what the question is you're going to ask.

# MR. BILL CORNING:

That's right.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

Bill why don't you just tell us question two (2) and we will tell you answer two (2)? And you know we can keep this shorter.

# MR. BILL CORNING:

Well at least this way I get out of the house.

#### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Any other comments Richard?

### MR. RICHARD HILL:

Well I have a question also about the TAPP grant funding. But I will try to be real brief on this. But let's just take the example you gave about the remedial investigation. Would there not be a certain time frame that that has to be responded in and would it not be hard to get all this TAPP grant together and get somebody to review it and all that within a comment period on something like that?

### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Ittle longer answer would be only because we are at the very beginning of that process. And it would be one (1) of the first ones that would get processed and cycled through the system and it hasn't been done before. The current schedule shows the RI to come out in May of this year. If as we expect the final regulation for the TAPP fund comes out in February then what I would suggest the community members do is get their applications in as soon as possible and get it up to the front of the line so it's one (1) of the first ones and they can get that

- 58 -

process so that it might be applicable to them. But that will not be the only document that's going to be coming What comes out after that is a feasibility study which analyzes the various mechanisms to clean up what has been identified and that may be even of more interest to the community then you know watch this. Because I think most of the people know that for the greatest extent that environmentally soil contamination with heavy metals has some diesel petroleum and solvents. Now those are not big issues and they are not wide spread. But how it's going to be cleaned up and where it's going to go and to what levels it's going to be cleaned up might be of more interest. And that would be something that they could also comply with.

15

16

17

18

### MR. BOB HUDSON:

And it would be an advantage to go through the process before they write a book of rules.

19

20

# MR. RICHARD HILL:

21

Yeah.

22

24

25

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

That's exactly right. Any other comment or question on that?

1	MR. BOB HUDSON:
2	No that's fine.
3	
4	MR. PAUL CLOUD:
5	Yes sir?
6	
7	MR. STEVE VAUGHN:
8	One (1) final question. How many new
9	roads did the Army build around the Proving Ground
10	shortly before it closed around the perimeter on the
11	inside?
12	
13	MR. PAUL CLOUD:
14	We didn't build any new roads.
15	
16	MR. STEVE VAUGHN:
17	Or added any sections of new roads
18	that previously wasn't there within the last ten (10)
19	years?
20	
21	MR. PAUL CLOUD:
22	I'm not familiar. Go ahead.
23	
24	MR. STEVE VAUGHN:
25	Just from outside the fence you can

notice a lot of road at several different places. I was just wondering if there's any - there's a lot of laws out there now that we can't let this ground erode away. You know it has to be - it has to be contained. I was wondering if Fish and Wildlife was going to address that subject or the military or are we going to continue to let the roads lay?

### MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Go ahead Mike.

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

The perimeter of any roads are part of the - the maintenance of the perimeter of roads north of the firing line are part of our agreement that I told you earlier with the Air National Guard. And they will be working to maintain the perimeter roads and some of the interior road network north of the firing line. Some of those roads will be maintained at a lesser level and some will not be maintained at all because there is no reason for them to be maintained. Those were roads that perhaps go into a specific firing position or a specific impact area and there's no longer a need to get into those areas. We are not going to maintain those roads and we don't expect the Air National Guard to maintain

those roads.

Э

### MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

Basically what I'm talking about is where Otter Creek enters the Proving Ground -- on the outside and they recently tore out the floor gate that had been put in within the last ten (10) years and you know stuff in that area is still --

# MR. MIKE EARLY:

Your point is well taken. And that is a specific issue that Ken over there on the site team deals with on a day to day basis. Part of that may be Guard responsibility. Part of that is Army responsibility. We do watch out for that. And - and the east perimeter road is a major route as you are aware to travel up and down the Proving ground to get inside.

# MR. STEVE VAUGHN:

Yes.

# MR. PAUL CLOUD:

If there are no further comments or questions I would like to thank everyone for coming to the meeting. Again make sure you pick up our handout.

Make sure you sign in on our attendance sheet so that we can keep you on the mailing list and make you aware of future meetings. Our next meeting will be March 18th. It's a Wednesday and will be at North Vernon at the Public Library. Again that's a Wednesday at 7 P.M. You will get a separate letter in the mail before that meeting and also the items that will be on the agenda for that meeting. So without further ado I would like to thank everyone again and close the meeting and see you at the next meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

CONCLUSION OF HEARING

# CERTIFICATE

STATE OF INDIANA )

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON )

I, Sharon Shields, do hereby certify that I am a Notary Public in and for the County of Jefferson, State of Indiana, duly authorized and qualified to administer oaths; That the foregoing public hearing was taken by me in shorthand and on a tape recorder on February 3, 1998 in the Versailles High School, Versailles, IN; That this public hearing was taken on behalf of the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board pursuant to agreement for taking at this time and place; That the testimony of the witnesses was reduced to typewriting by me and contains a complete and accurate transcript of the said testimony.

I further certify that pursuant to stipulation by and between the respective parties, this testimony has been transcribed and submitted to the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal this LOCK day of February, 1998.

Sharon Shields, Notary Public Jefferson County, State of Indiana

My Commission Expires: July 2, 1999

- 64 -